

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

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R 010559Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8192

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIETS DESIRE TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL NEW RECREATIONAL
PROPERTY

REF: (A) STATE 215414, (B) STATE 214397, (C) MOSCOW 12561,
(D) MOSCOW 12376

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE FROM REFTELS C AND D THE APPRO-
PRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN LITTLE ACTION ON THE EMBASSY'S
LONG STANDING REQUESTS CONCERNING HOUSING, ADDITIONAL RE-
CREATIONAL FACILITIES, APPROPRIATE SPACE FOR THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN SCHOOL, ETC. MANY OF THESE REQUESTS ARE OVER A YEAR OLD.

2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SOVIETS ALREADY
HAVE SUBSTANTIAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT GLEN COVE AND OYSTER
BAY, NEW YORK AS WELL AS PIONEER POINT, MARYLAND. EVEN WITHOUT
CONSIDERING THE 500 ACRES
VALERIA ESTATE AT COURTLANDT, NEW YORK, THE SITUATION IS
ALREADY OVERWHELMINGLY ONE-SIDED. EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS A SINGLE
RECREATIONAL AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 7 ACRES WITH TWO INHABITABLE
BUILDINGS, ONE OF WHICH IS VERY SMALL WITH ONLY ONE BEDROOM.
THE SOVIET'S ESTATE AT PIONEER POINT ALONE HAS MORE THAN 45
ACRES AND ACCOMMODATIONS AND FACILITIES FOR SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF
PEOPLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, OUR PRESENT RECREATIONAL PROPERTY HAS
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BECOME SO CROWDED THAT AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE AND HIS FAMILY CAN

EXPECT TO USE THE DACHA ON THE AVERAGE OF ONE WEEKEND PER YEAR.
IN AUG 1975 THE EMBASSY REQUESTED ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL AREA
FROM UPDK, IN SPITE OF REPEATED FOLLOW UP TO DATE NOT A SINGLE
OFFER HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING FROM UPDK.

3. THE SOVIET PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN
NEW YORK WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ALSO USE THE VALERIA ESTATE IN
COURTLANDT. THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE AS AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM, THE
DEPARTMENT SHOULD INSIST THAT THE APPROPRIATE SOVIET
AUTHORITIES OFFER US ACCEPTABLE RECREATIONAL PROPERTY IN BOTH
KIEV AND MOSCOW. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, WE WOULD PREFER THAT THE
DEPARTMENT USE THE EMBASSY'S REQUESTS IN REFTEL C AND
D AS A PACKAGE AND INFORM THE SOVIETS UNTIL PROGRESS IS MADE ON
THESE LONG STANDING ISSUES, THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT APPROVE THE
PURCHASE OF ANY ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL PROPERTY BY THE
SOVIETS IN THE US.
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